

Data Review and Issue Prioritization

A Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for residents of Huron County, Ohio was performed in 2020. The assessment provides health-related data for Huron County adults (19 years of age and older), youth (ages 12 through 18), and children (ages 0-11) who participated in the county-wide health assessment questionnaire. The questions were modeled after the survey instruments used by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for its national and state Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), and the National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH) developed by the Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative.

Illuminology collected the data, guided the health assessment process, and integrated sources of primary and secondary data into the final report in collaboration with the Huron County Health Partners led by Huron County Public Health. Fisher-Titus Medical Center representatives also solicited feedback from community leaders during a presentation of the results of the 2020 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) as well as considered reports and recommendations of the Huron County Health Partners (which includes Public Health). We will continue to work closely with community leaders to adapt and execute the plan.

Input also was solicited and taken into account from persons who represent the broad interests of the community, including church leaders, non-profit organization executives, and data from primary care practices, and the underserved.

Prioritized List of Significant Health Needs Identified in CHNA

Significant health needs were gleaned from the CHNA as well as recommendations of the Huron County Partners (which include Public Health) and reports, and additional sources mentioned previously. The most recent iteration of the health assessment was compared with the past assessment findings.

The following implementation plan is a three-year plan depicting the overall work that Fisher-Titus Medical Center will evaluate and consider in addressing the priority areas. Yearly work plans will be developed to provide detailed actions. The plans will be reviewed each year to assess progress and update strategies as needed.

Health Priorities

1. Mental Health and Addiction
2. Physical Health
3. Access to and Cost of Care

MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION

Improve access to mental health services and decrease addiction.

- **Improve the mental health and wellbeing of our population.**
 - Collaborate on projects with other mental health agencies to bring resources to our county.
 - Continual review of best practices for mental health support in primary care practices; embed counseling in some primary care and pediatric offices for improved access.
 - Educate the public on mental health through a variety of venues.
 - Provide representation on Mental Health and Addiction Services Board of Directors.
 - Increase access to mental health in our county for underinsured population through partnership with local Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC).
- **Reduce Substance Abuse through prevention, screening, and treatment.**
 - Collaborate with other local agencies on Opioid Threshold Alert.
 - Support agencies working to reduce the number of community members addicted through Occupational Health drug screen services, or other request to support their missions.
 - Work collaboratively with our local chambers of commerce to utilize the opioid toolkit in area businesses.
 - Continue partnering the Emergency Department with the Huron County Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services (MHAS) to get addicted individuals into appropriate facilities for treatment.
 - Collaborate with organizations to reduce youth risky behavior (i.e. Drug Free Clubs of America, smoking cessation, etc.).

PHYSICAL HEALTH

Promote health and reduce chronic disease risk by increasing knowledge of healthy foods, access to physical activity programs to maintain healthy weight, and general best practices to stay healthy and well.

- **Decrease the percentage of children and adolescents who are considered obese.**
 - Partner with schools with the evidenced based program Healthy Kids Healthy You
 - Support local programs that provide a healthy environment for children to exercise, such as the Healthy Kids Running Series.
 - Partner with local schools and community organizations that are providing physical health classes, such as the Ernsthausen Recreation Center 3rd Grade Swimming Program and other youth fitness education classes hosted by the Rec Center.
 - Support local organizations that provide healthy meals to children in the community, including Weekends Without Hunger.
 - Consider establishing new guidelines for the existing school grant program to further encourage proper nutrition and physical activity.
- **Decrease the percentage of adults who are considered obese.**

- Host community-based physical activity programs such as Couch to 5K, and partner with community 5K races and other public events supporting weight loss and physical fitness.
- Work with employers to implement a wellness program and to educate employees on healthy eating and activity.
- Provide weight loss education through nutrition columns and local events with hospital dietitians.
- Introduce programs along with local communities for all ages utilizing walking trails, fitness parks, and bike paths; provide funding support for these fitness areas when possible and needed.
- **Decrease the number of the population diagnosed with chronic disease.**
 - Increase public knowledge, treatment and prevention of Diabetes, Cardiovascular and Pulmonary diseases through broader promotion of our Diabetes Education Program.
 - Educate community on importance of health screenings and provide health screenings at a more regular cadence for better access.
 - Increase the number of Medicare Wellness visits by Population Health staff.
 - Continue Chronic Care Management in our family medicine practices.
- **Explore the need for additional school-based sexual health programs.**
 - Maintain partnerships with local schools to provide sexual health programs in partnership with our physicians and staff.
 - Work with Huron County Public Health in exploring the need for additional programs and venues for educating youth.
- **Provide education for reducing the spread of communicable disease.**
 - Continue influenza vaccination clinics.
 - Educate community on minimizing the spread of COVID-19 in our community.
 - Providing COVID-19 vaccines if/when one becomes available.

ACCESS TO CARE

Improve access to health care to improve health and decrease complications, resulting in better quality of life.

- **Increase compliance with medication through programs that address barriers for accessing medications.**
 - Continue Prescription Assistance Program to help those who cannot afford medication.
 - Continue Chronic Care Management program.
 - Improve communication between provider and patients on benefits of medication to drive compliance.
- **Increase number of women over 40 who are receiving mammograms.**
 - Increase public knowledge of importance of mammogram screenings.
 - Continue the discussion to assist health care providers in discussing the importance of mammogram screenings.
 - Partner with Susan G. Komen Northwest Ohio screening to offer free mammograms.

- Promote Fisher-Titus Mammography Fund when patients do not qualify for Susan G. Komen Northwest Ohio grant.
- **Increase access to in demand services.**
 - Add services and providers based on community health and wellness needs, taking into consideration the volume of patients.
 - Expand telehealth capabilities to provide virtual visits to those with transportation issues, or in instances where leaving the house is difficult or unsafe.
 - Optimize medical records portal to enable superior access to medical records and information to help people maintain their health, communicate with their providers, and schedule appointments.
 - Increase access to preventative care by offering blood screening for the underinsured/uninsured.
 - Continue cancer screenings including skin cancer screenings, colon cancer screenings, and others; taking into consideration cancers with higher incidents in the county.
 - Evaluate and support expanding services to ambulatory locations to support community in locations closer to home. This could include lab draw services, rehab services and leased space for other provider based services to have a presence in areas outside of the Medical Center.